

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 ACDA-10 /060 W

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FM USDEL ASWAN

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 228

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS FINAL SECTION OF TWO USDEL ASWAN 0282

11. QUESTION: FROM WHERE DID YOU GET THE INFORMATION
THAT KISSINGER WOULD COME BACK TO WASHINGTON.

12. ANSWER: ASWAN IS THE CENTER OF THE WORLD. WE ARE IN
FULL COMMUNICATION WITH EVERY CAPITAL IN THE WORLD.
WE ARE IN FULL COMMUNICATION.

13. QUESTION: MR. BASHIR, DO YOU EXPECT THIS WILL AFFECT
THE EGYPTIAN/AMERICAN RELATIONS?

14. ANSWER: NO, THIS SHOULD AFFECT AMERICAN/ISRAELI
RELATIONS. THE ACTION BY ISRAEL PROVES TO THE WORLD
HOW INTRANSIGENT THE ISRAELI POSITION IS, HOW RELUCTANT
THE ISRAELIS ARE TO MOVE TOWARDS PEACE AND EVEN A
LIMITED STEP TO FORTIFY AND STRENGTHEN THE PEACE EFFORTS
HAS BEEN TURNED DOWN BY THE ISRAELIS.

15. QUESTION: WHAT WAS THE MAJOR ISSUE, THE NON-BELLIGERENCY?

ANSWER: THE MAJOR ISSUE IS THE ISRAELIS' REFUSAL TO COMMIT
THEMSELVES TO PEACE IN SO MANY WAYS AND IN SO MANY DETAILS.
THE BASIC ISSUE IS THE FACT THAT ISRAEL HAS NOT DECIDED,
AT LEAST ITS GOVERNMENT, HAS NOT DECIDED THAT IT
APPLIES IN GOOD INTENTION ALL THE UN RESOLUTIONS AND IN
SIMPLE TERMS TO COME TO A JUST PEACE WITH THE ARABS.
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16. QUESTION: AT WHAT POINT, MR. BASHIR, DID THE ISRAELIS
INTRODUCE THE IDEA OF A DEMAND FOR NON-BELLIGERENCY,
BECAUSE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WE WERE
GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS HAD BEEN DROPPED. AT WHAT

POINT DID THEY SUDDENLY REINTRODUCE THIS, AS THE FOREIGN MINISTER SUGGESTED THAT THEY HAVE DONE.

17. ANSWER: WHEN THEY REINTRODUCED DIFFERENT FORMS AND DIFFERENT FORMULAE THAT TENDED ALL THE TIME TO COME BACK TO THAT ISSUE IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER.

18. QUESTION: MR. BASHIR, WHAT IS THE PRESIDENT'S REACTION TO THIS. WHAT DOES THE PRESIDENT WANT TO HAPPEN NOW?

19. ANSWER: I SAW THE PRESIDENT TODAY, JUST BEFORE THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND HE IS LEAVING TOMORROW AT 1100 FOR CAIRO AND WE WILL PURSUE OUR POLICY AS INITIATED ORIGINALLY. THIS RELUCTANCE BY ISRAEL TO MOVE TO PEACE IS ONE OF THE ELEMENTS THAT WE HAVE TOLD THE WORLD FOR A LONG TIME. THIS IS THE STATE OF ISRAELI AFFAIRS, THAT WE HOPED THE OCTOBER WAR AND THE GENEVA CONFERENCE HAD CHANGED THE ISRAELI POSITION, THAT MORE PEOPLE IN ISRAEL WOULD PRESSURE THEIR GOVERNMENT FOR PEACE, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THIS IS NOT THE CASE AND WE WILL PURSUE OUR POLICY TO BRING ABOUT A JUST PEACE.

20. QUESTION: DOES THIS MEAN, SIR, THAT THE CHANCES OF ANOTHER WAR ARE GREATER?

21. ANSWER: IN SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED WE WILL ENDEAVOR VERY VIGOROUSLY TO BRING A JUST AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. IF THERE IS TENSION OR WAR THEN IT IS THE ISRAELIS' RESPONSIBILITY BECAUSE THEY ARE PURSUING A POLICY OF BELLIGERENCY.

22. QUESTION: WHAT IS THE POSITION OF GENEVA?

23. ANSWER: THAT WILL HAVE TO WAIT A BIT, BUT GENEVA IS ON RECORD AND WE HAVE TO REACTIVATE THE MEETING
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PRETTY SOON.

24. QUESTION: THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT THE ARAB STATES AND THE PLO WOULD FORMALLY REQUEST THE TWO SUPERPOWERS TO RECONVENE GENEVA; HE ALSO SAID THAT THE ARAB STATES WOULD CONSULT AMONG THEMSELVES; WHICH IS GOING TO COME FIRST, IS THERE GOING TO BE A SUMMIT OF THE ARAB STATES FIRST?

25. ANSWER: THE ARAB STATES ARE MEETING NEXT MONDAY MORNING IN THE ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL AND MR. FAHMY, THE FOREIGN MINISTER, WILL ADDRESS THAT COUNCIL. THE ARAB CONSULTATIONS WILL BE TAKING PLACE THERE ALONG WITH A LOT OF BILATERAL

RELATIONSHIPS.

26. QUESTION: WILL THERE BE A SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT VERY SOON TO ANNOUNCE THE EGYPTIAN POINT OF VIEW?

27. ANSWER: WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE PRESIDENT TO ANNOUNCE WHATEVER HE IS GOING TO SAY.

28. QUESTION: MR. BASHIR, HOW DID THE PRESIDENT LEARN THAT THE TALKS HAD BROKEN DOWN. DID HE HAVE A PHONE CALL FROM DR. KISSINGER?

29. ANSWER: NO THE MESSAGE WAS COMMUNICATED LIKE ALL THE MESSAGES THIS EVENING JUST A LITTLE WHILE BEFORE THE PRESS CONFERENCE TOOK PLACE.

30. QUESTION: WHY DID DR. KISSINGER FEEL IT NOT NECESSARY TO RETURN TO TELL THE PRESIDENT PERSONALLY THAT HIS MISSION HAD BROKEN DOWN.

31. ANSWER: WELL, I THINK IT IS BETTER AT THIS TIME THAT HE RETURNS TO AMERICA AND MAKE AMERICA TAKE ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATION FOR A JUST PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE PROBLEM OF MR. KISSINGER WAS NOT IN CAIRO, IT WAS IN TEL AVIV.

32. QUESTION: DO YOU SEE THE FAILURE OF DR. KISSINGER'S UNCLASSIFIED

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MISSION ALSO AS A FAILURE OF EGYPTIAN DIPLOMACY?

33. ANSWER: I SEE IT AS A FAILURE OF ISRAELI POLICY. I THINK EGYPT BY ITS PATIENT POLICY HAS EXPOSED THE POLICY OF AGGRESSION IN ISRAEL.

34. QUESTION: DID DR. KISSINGER DECIDE TO GO RIGHT AWAY TO WASHINGTON OR WAS IT COMMUNICATED BEFORE THAT DECISION.

35. ANSWER: HE COMMUNICATED AS THE OFFICIAL TEXT INDICATED.

36. QUESTION: WAS HE SUPPOSED TO COME BACK?

37. ANSWER: IF A SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION WAS TO CONCLUDE, YES. BUT IF THE ISRAELIS DID NOT GIVE HIM ANYTHING WHICH IS IN THE NATURE OF A GO IN THE NEGOTIATION, THEN IT IS MUCH BETTER FOR HIM TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO ATTEND...TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS ABOUT THE ISRAELI BEHAVIOR. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. SEE YOU IN CAIRO.
END BASHIR'S Q. & A.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ASWAN00282
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: ASWAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750398/abbrzhfd.tel
Line Count: 165
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 MAR 2003 by hagers>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: n/a
To: JERUSALEM NIACT INFO STATE NIACT
CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006